

**To whom it may concern:**

**I support S.B. 445, the “puppy mill bill”. As a veterinarian, I have seen many sickly and poor quality dogs obtained from pet stores. Owners typically are not aware of the source of these puppies until they have problems. Your investigation into this matter has shown you that a majority (if not all) of these puppies are bred in inhumane (although often perfectly legal) conditions. I also ask that this bill go even further to include requirements that 1) all new pet shops shall not sell commercially-bred dogs AND 2) for current pet shops, a phase-out of the sale of commercially-bred dogs.**

**In addition,**

**I Oppose HB 5080, which would allow Sunday hunting.  
I support HB 5416 (Section 2) which would ban gestation crates  
([www.humanesociety.org/ct](http://www.humanesociety.org/ct)).**

**Thank you,**

**Michele K. Lamothe, DVM  
Westport CT**